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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/078,350 Confirmation No. 5054
Applicant : M. ASANO et al
Filed : February 21, 2002
Title : STORAGE OPERATIONAL SYSTEM AND METHOD OF
PROVIDING THE STORAGE RENTAL SERVICE
TC/AU : 3629
Examiner : N. Vig
Docket No. : NIT-331
Customer No.: 24956

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

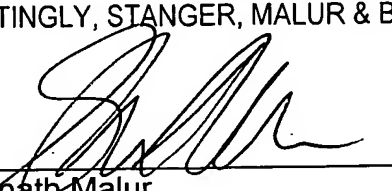
Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 13, 2006,
Applicants elect to prosecute the invention defined by the Examiner as Group I,
including claims 1-3 and 6-8. This election is made with traverse.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional payment due
to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
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October 2, 2006